

[English]

**Clearance of Pending Projects**

6519. PROF. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA:  
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:  
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:  
SHRI PRAFUL PATEL:  
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects pending with the Planning Commission for approval, State/ Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for early clearance of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). The following five projects of Irrigation and Flood Control which are in different stages of examination in the Planning Commission are pending for investment approval:-

<i>Project Name</i>	<i>State</i>
1. Retirement from 8th KM to 13th KM of extension of Bhuragaon retirement of Brahmaputra dyke.	Assam
2. Kesho Reservoir project	Bihar
3. Deogad Medium Irrigation Project	Maharashtra
4. Deo Irrigation Project	Orissa
5. Anaimadavu Reservoir Project	Tamil Nadu

[Translation]

**Promotional Avenues for Scientists**

6520. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:  
DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any uniform policy for promotions in the Scientific and Technical departments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the resentment is increasing among the scientists as a result thereof; and

(d) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (d). The Science and Technology Departments follow the Flexible Complementing Scheme for promotion of their Scientists. There are some variations in the respective schemes depending on the organisational needs. However, government reviews promotional policies from time to time with a view to rationalising them. This is a continuous process and appropriate measures are taken, wherever necessary.

[English]

**Revamping of National Instruments Limited**

6521. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West

Bengal have requested for revamping of the National Instruments Limited; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K.THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Various steps taken by the Government include *inter-alia* provision of funds for product rationalisation, diversification, technology upgradation and in-house research and development as also requesting various customers including state enterprises, Central public sector enterprises and defence etc., for utilising the facilities created in National Instruments Limited.

#### Cess/Royalty on Coal

6522. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the income of Orissa and Bihar from imposing cess and royalty on coal has gone down;

(b) if so, the amount of income and the amount lost and the reasons of cancelling the cess imposed on coal by Government of Orissa and Bihar;

(c) whether the Union Government have increased the royalty on coal;

(d) whether in spite of it the income of the two States are less than the previous one;

(e) the steps being taken to see that the income from cess and royalty does not go down by only imposing royalty;

(f) whether both the Governments have written to the Union Government to increase the income on this score; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUA): (a) The revenue accruing to State Governments of Orissa and Bihar from royalty and cesses on coal has come down after levy of cesses on coal by these State Governments was struck off by the courts.

(b) to (e). Consequent to the withdrawal of cesses on coal in some States due to court orders, Government of India have increased the rates of royalty on coal with effect from 1.8.1991 except for coal produced in the States of Assam and West Bengal, which States are still levying cesses on coal at high rates. Which increasing the rates of royalty, Government has to balance the revenue needs of the State Governments. With the interests of coal consumers. In such an exercise, it is not always possible to protect the revenues of individual States. However, the aggregate revenue from cess and royalty on coal accruing to all States where coal is produced has gone up after the increase in rates of royalty. Individual States will get higher or lower revenue than before, depending upon whether the rates of cesses plus old rates of royalty taken together were lower or higher than the revised rates of royalty. A comparison between the actual royalty and cesses paid by Coal India Limited during 1989-90 and the royalty that would have accrued, had the revised rates of royalty on coal been made applicable during 1989-90 in the States of Bihar and Orissa is given below:-